

## RECYCLING PUBLIC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

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Wednesday, April 19, 2017

1:00pm to 3:00pm

Grottos Pizza, 1159 N DuPont Hwy, Dover, DE 19901

### Meeting Summary

**Members present:** Dick Cecil (DE Association of Counties)  
Marianne Cinaglia (DeLEASI)  
Marjorie Crofts (DNREC)  
Stan Mills (League of Local Governments)  
Mike Parkowski (DSWA)  
Paul Bickhart (Recycling Industry)

**Members absent:** Julie Miro Wenger (Del. Food Industry Council)  
Charles Campbell-King (Public)  
Adam Webster (Restaurant Industry)  
Wendy Turner (Mt. Pleasant Elementary)  
Coralie Pryde (League of Women Voters)

**Non-members Present:**

Bill Miller (DNREC)	Kim Jarrell (DNREC)
Jackie Howard (DNREC)	Jim Short (Public)
Don Long (DNREC)	Steven Chillas (OMB)
Nancy Marker (DNREC)	Laura Kelly, 1LT (DAFB)
Pat Canzano (Public)	Brock Vinton (Public)

**Call to Order, Introductions** – by Stan Mills, Acting Chair, at 1:02pm

**Public Comments** – None

**Approval of Meeting Minutes** — January 25 and March 22, 2017 were not approved due to lack of quorum

### Old Business –

**Status of Universal Recycling Grant and Low-Interest Loan Program:** Jackie Howard reported that all of Cycle 7 and all but a few of the Cycle 8 grants awards are still outstanding, including some of the media contracts. Kim Jarrell emphasized that the remaining grants are in house awaiting review by our Finance Office and/or OMB for approval and issuances of POs. Stan asked if there was any money remaining in the Grant Fund and Jackie said that there is essentially no more money in the Universal Recycling Grants and Low Interest Loan Program and the Program effectively is ended with the issuance of Cycle 8 awards.

**Status of 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Report** – Jackie indicated that the RPAC Annual Report was emailed (electronic format only) to the following: all RPAC members and to the 2 Legislative Clerks, Mr. Richard Puffer and Mr. Bernard Brady, for distribution to members of the Legislature. Jackie also reported a read receipt from Gov. Carney indicating he had received the email. Stan asked if any members of the Legislature received a hard copy of the report and Jackie said no. Dick Cecil asked for a hard copy and Jackie said she would get him a copy.

**Outreach/Education Subcommittee Updates** – Jackie reported that the subcommittee had met twice and is awaiting signed media contracts before proceeding forward with meetings on developing creative content across all media platforms. She also mentioned that the DNREC jingle will be repurposed for use in the campaign.

## Membership Status –

**Council seat vacancies** – Stan reported that an application from a waste hauler had been received by the Gov. Office. He also indicated that the Council is down from 16 members to 11. Stan also asked the Council members and DNREC to please forward to him any names of people who are interested in applying for a seat on RPAC as he would like to send them a packet of info which includes the application, Council by-laws and other guidance indicating expectations of membership on RPAC.

**Nomination process for new members** – Stan told members that he would like all potential applicants to be forwarded his way and he will speak with each of them.

**Status of solicitation of descriptions of member agencies** – Stan reported that he has received some of these from Council Members but is awaiting others; Marj reported that anyone from an organization represented on the Council can be a candidate to represent that agency on the RPAC, not just the Exec. Dir.

## Short-Term and Long-Term Goals

### Short Term Goals:

- **Optimizing RPAC meeting attendance** – Stan asked members how to boost attendance and if distance to meetings was an issue; Marianne asked about call in voting or Skype; Stan indicated this would be difficult as the public needs access to the meetings; Mike suggested putting forth a request and change to charter that would reduce the number of members back to what they were before the bottle bill fee; Stan asked if the RPAC is due for a change in the type of members invited, i.e., a different mix of membership; Mike suggested Stan call each of the organizations whose members have resigned and ask if RPAC is still relevant to their businesses prior to deciding on a different mix and an ask of the Legislature to affect this change; Marianne suggested asking businesses like Home Depot to be on RPAC; Marj suggested someone from the organics industry and Don suggested Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity; Stan added schools and media
- **Meeting with the new Governor and new Secretary of DNREC** – Stan told members these meetings are pending per a strategy meeting with DNREC to determine message that should be carried forward to the Sec. and Gov.
- **MRF Visit for RPAC members** – Stan will work with the MRF to set this up per agreement by members at the last meeting that this is something they would like to do

### Long Term Goals:

Stan expressed that at some point in the future RPAC should be able to say they further analyzed specific topics for cost benefit relative to increasing recycling rates; that RPAC ranked recycling programs low, medium and high and that RPAC recommends the next steps with justification for the recommendations. Stan's interest in today's agenda topic was to outline approaches not evaluate the topics.

1. **Annual report recommendations.** Discuss follow ups with legislators. Marj suggested that Gov. Carney be encouraged to do a new Exec. Order on behalf of RPAC
2. **Grants program** - Ongoing efforts, Presentations from past grant recipients, Funding challenges. Paul supports this; Marj suggested letting elected officials know of the presentations that are in their districts; Stan suggested DNREC prepare a list of potential presenters; Marj put forth a list of possible topics – multifamily housing, schools, industry but not haulers; Don will let Stan know when Responsive Mgmt. can come to meeting to give a presentation on survey results
3. **Waste streams.** “Review which waste streams must be diverted from disposal [at a landfill] including the date by which the diverted waste streams must be diverted from disposal.” Mike Parkowski suggested that a DSWA report pending completion would be a good start to look at what is still getting into the landfills that could be diverted. Also to take another look at the DSM report.

#### Organics.

- Define what we are talking about.
- Review the final report of the Organics task force.
- Have DSWA report on a pending organics report.
- Determine other avenues to pursue stemming from the organics task force and DSWA reports.
- Learn more about Organix Company. Invite representative to meeting.
- Learn more about local composters – e.g. Purdue’s new in-house composting. Other?
- Review history of composting in Delaware – WORC and Blue Hen. Other?
- Review history of organics recycling relative to the restaurant industry. (Past grant award went to a company promoting organics recycling in restaurants.)
- Learn of/analyze Nova Scotia organics model.

#### Other?

#### 4. Other mechanisms to increase recycling and/or minimize waste.

- **Outreach.** “Design and implement public educational efforts aimed at increasing public awareness of recycling opportunities.”
- **Grant program** –
  - **Funding to reinstate program** and to keep RPAC alive; Marj suggested this as a topic of its own.
  - **Outreach** beyond outreach via grant programs – Paul wants contamination to be a part of this; Marj wants media messaging brought back to RPAC for review; Don said this will happen.
  - **Monitoring** recycling mandates within Universal Recycling *and* enforcement. “Review the parties responsible for ensuring the identified waste streams are diverted from disposal.” Stan suggests DNREC assist RPAC with discussion of this topic.
- **Incentive based recycling** Paul Bickhart mentioned that Wilmington had tried this.
- **Pay As You Throw (PAYT)**
- **Extended Producer Responsibility** Nancy Marker, DNREC, said to confer with her as she has studied this.
- **Zero waste principles**
- **Other?** Nancy Marker suggested that “funding” could be a stand-alone topic to include funding of grants, outreach and RPAC. Also it was suggested that some of these topics, e.g. PAYT, might be better facilitated on the municipal level rather than as state-wide initiatives.
- **5. “Such other recommendations as the Council shall deem appropriate.”** –
  - Bill suggested the following list of priorities for RPAC 1) Organics 2) Outreach 3) Grant Recipient presentations and 4) Follow-through on Annual Report recommendations.

#### New Business.

- Committee descriptions, participation – Bill talked about the importance of the Measurement and Reporting Subcommittee and that he would like to still be involved on that; the active Subcommittee is the Outreach and Education Subcommittee; Marj suggested a reformation of the Bylaws Subcommittee.

**Recycling Market Update** – Paul reported cardboard up per ton; Mike indicated that all fiberboard has gone down due to China not currently accepting paper; Paul indicated that Mike’s data is more current than his.

**Additional Public Comments** – Stan brought a copy of an email sent out by Rep. Schwarzkopf with a recycling message; Mr. Steve Chillas, OMB, asked where all the drop off sites have gone; Mike responded by telling him

that all unstaffed drop off sites are being closed due to contamination issues and that 13 staffed sites will remain open to the public and he mentioned Milford and Georgetown in Sussex County.

**Next Meeting** – Wednesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> DNREC Facility, Pilottown Rd., Lewes

**Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 3:45pm.